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## IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Page 5, replace the paragraph on lines 15 to 21 with the following:

Suitable hydrophobic second components include polyurethane; elastomers, and siloxane polymers such as polydimethylsiloxanes or vinyl containing siloxanes or polymethylhydrosiloxanes, polyethylene-vinylacetate (EVA), polytetramethylene oxide (PTMO), and ~~HydroThane~~. ~~HydroThane~~ is HYDROTHANE (a trademark of Cardiotech International Inc. of Woburn, Massachusetts for a superabsorbent, thermoplastic hydrophilic, aliphatic polyurethane elastomer). The particular product used in the present case is identified as ~~HydroThane~~ HYDROTHANE AR25-80A (a polyurethane elastomer of the above described type).

Page 7, replace the paragraph on lines 3 to 8 as follows:

Drugs may be incorporated into the IPN via dispersion, dissolution, absorption or chemical linkage depending upon the method used to combine the two polymers as well as the solubility properties of the drug. In the case of a gelatin-~~HydroThane~~ HYDROTHANE (a polyurethane elastomer) film, drugs may be dissolved or dispersed in the gelatin-~~HydroThane~~ HYDROTHANE (a polyurethane elastomer) reaction mixture prior to cross-linking of the gelatin or a solution of the drug can be absorbed into the finished IPN material.

Page 8, replace the heading and the paragraph on lines 8 to 19 with the following:

**Preparation of Gelatin ~~HydroThane~~ HYDROTHANE (a polyurethane elastomer)**

A 0.67 g sample of aged 7.5 wt% methacrylated gelatin in DMSO was mixed with 1.25 g of 4 wt% ~~HydroThane~~ HYDROTHANE (a polyurethane elastomer) in DMSO in a

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scintillation vial. A 91  $\mu$ l aliquot of 10 wt% 2,2-dimethoxy-2-phenylacetophenone (available from Ciba Specialty Chemicals Canada of Toronto, Ontario under the trademark Irgacure 651) in DMSO was then added. The mixture was vigorously vortexed for about 30 s, and purged with nitrogen for 5 minutes in the scintillation vial. The mixture was UV-irradiated for 15 min at 350 nm at an intensity of 9 m W/cm<sup>2</sup> (using a RAYONET model RPR-200, Southern New England Company, Brandford, CN) to form an IPN film. The resulting film was washed for a week in a 0.1% aqueous solution of sodium azide solution to remove all residual DMSO. Some of the IPN films were then frozen at -70°C and dried under vacuum.

Replace the paragraph spanning pages 8 and 9 with the following:

The images of the gelatin-~~HydroThane~~ HYDROTHANE (a polyurethane elastomer) IPN films shown in Figs. 1 and 2 were taken using a digital camera (Nikon CoolPix™ 880) positioned over the eyepiece of an optical microscope (Olympus BH-2) set at 100x magnification. The camera output was routed to a 14-inch television monitor (Sony Trinitron) to focus the images.